CITY OF NEWCASTLE

ANNUAL POLICE SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS & DATA

2008

city of
newcastle

Provided for the Residents by:

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City of Newcastle Administration

MAYOR	Ben Varon
DEPUTY MAYOR	Dan Hubbell
COUNCIL MEMBERS	Steve Buri
	Jean Garber
	Dan Hubbell
	Lisa Jensen
	Sonny Putter
	Carol Simpson
	Ben Varon
CITY MANAGER	John Starbard
CHIEF OF POLICE	Chief Melinda Irvine

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From Your Police Chief – March 2009

Dear Residents of Newcastle,

It is a pleasure to present the 2008 Police Service Highlights and Data Report for the City of Newcastle. This report provides you with an overall picture of Newcastle public safety issues, including successes and continuing efforts of the Newcastle Police in its partnership with the King County Sheriff's Office.

I am happy to report overall crime in Newcastle went down in 2008. Part I serious crimes (homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson) are down 6.5 percent while Part II crimes (crimes that do not fall into Part I, including fraud, forgery, vandalism, prostitution, drug violations, and DUIs) are down 15.7 percent.

During difficult economic times, communities often see an increase in crime. It is my priority in 2009 to keep crime rates down in Newcastle and to continue to focus our efforts on lowering rates further.

In 2008, our focus on traffic safety brought collisions down from 52 to 39—a number we will continue to work on decreasing in 2009. With the Coal Creek Parkway expansion project being completed this summer, the new design will help further decrease the accidents along that corridor and cut down on associated traffic complaints in neighborhoods along that stretch of roadway.

In 2008, we started a Neighborhood Speed Watch Program, which allows Newcastle residents to check out a radar unit from the Newcastle Police Department to monitor traffic speeds in their neighborhood. Residents record speeds and license plate numbers, and then return the information to the Newcastle Police who send out letters to the registered owners of the vehicles. So far, we have found that approximately 75 percent of the vehicles found speeding in Newcastle neighborhoods belong to Newcastle residents. While it is easy to be distracted when driving in familiar areas, it is important to remain focused on speed and surroundings throughout your travels.

To help combat crimes, we offer vacation house checks, E-Alert (email messages regarding criminal activity in Newcastle) and Block Watch programs. More information on each of these is available on our web site at www.ci.newcastle.wa.us.

In October 2008, the City of Newcastle started a blog, www.newcastle411.com, to keep readers better informed. One feature on the blog is a regular update about crime in the city. One of our valuable crime fighting tools is alert citizens who are aware of their neighborhood and who let us know when something is amiss. If you see criminal or suspicious activity in your area, please call 911 to have an officer investigate. To report a crime, accident or suspicious activity, 24-hours a day, call 911 or (206) 296-3311 (non-emergency #); an officer will be dispatched.

Newcastle continues to be a very safe community in which to live and work. On behalf of all the members of the Newcastle Police Department, I thank you for your continued support of our officers in 2008. Newcastle police officers take pride in serving the residents of Newcastle.

I hope you find this report useful and informative. We continue to improve police services for the City of Newcastle and look forward to working with you in this effort.

Sincerely,
Melinda Irvine, Chief of Police

About

Section 1: Police Service Highlights

Section 2: Police Service Data

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About the Annual Police Service Highlights & Data Report

The Annual Police Service Highlights & Data Report contains information on the service efforts and accomplishments of the Newcastle Police Department to support its mission, goals, and objectives. The goal of the report is to keep the City of Newcastle residents, staff, administrators, and elected officials informed of police service and crime activity in the city. The report is produced by the City of Newcastle Police Department in partnership with the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) Research, Planning and Informational Services and Contracts Units. Questions about the report can be directed to the Newcastle chief of police.

The Police Service Highlights section gives a narrative of police efforts and year-to-year comparisons of selected crime and police service data. Most of the data in this section is taken from the Police Services Data section unless otherwise indicated as being from a difference source.

The Police Service Data section provides further detailed crime and police service data. Please note that numbers in this section may differ slightly from numbers in the Police Services Highlights due to rounding differences.

Newcastle Police Department Mission, Goals, & Core Values

Mission
The mission of the Newcastle Police Department is to prevent crime and create an environment where people feel safe, while providing quality, professional law enforcement services designed to improve public safety.

Core Values
The Newcastle Police are committed to the core values of Leadership, Integrity, Service and Teamwork. We firmly believe in our core values and let these values guide all work that we do in the community.

Goals & Objectives
In order to realize this mission, the City of Newcastle Police Department has adopted the following goals and objectives:

Goal # 1: Reduce crime and the fear of crime
Objective: Use information for crime analysis
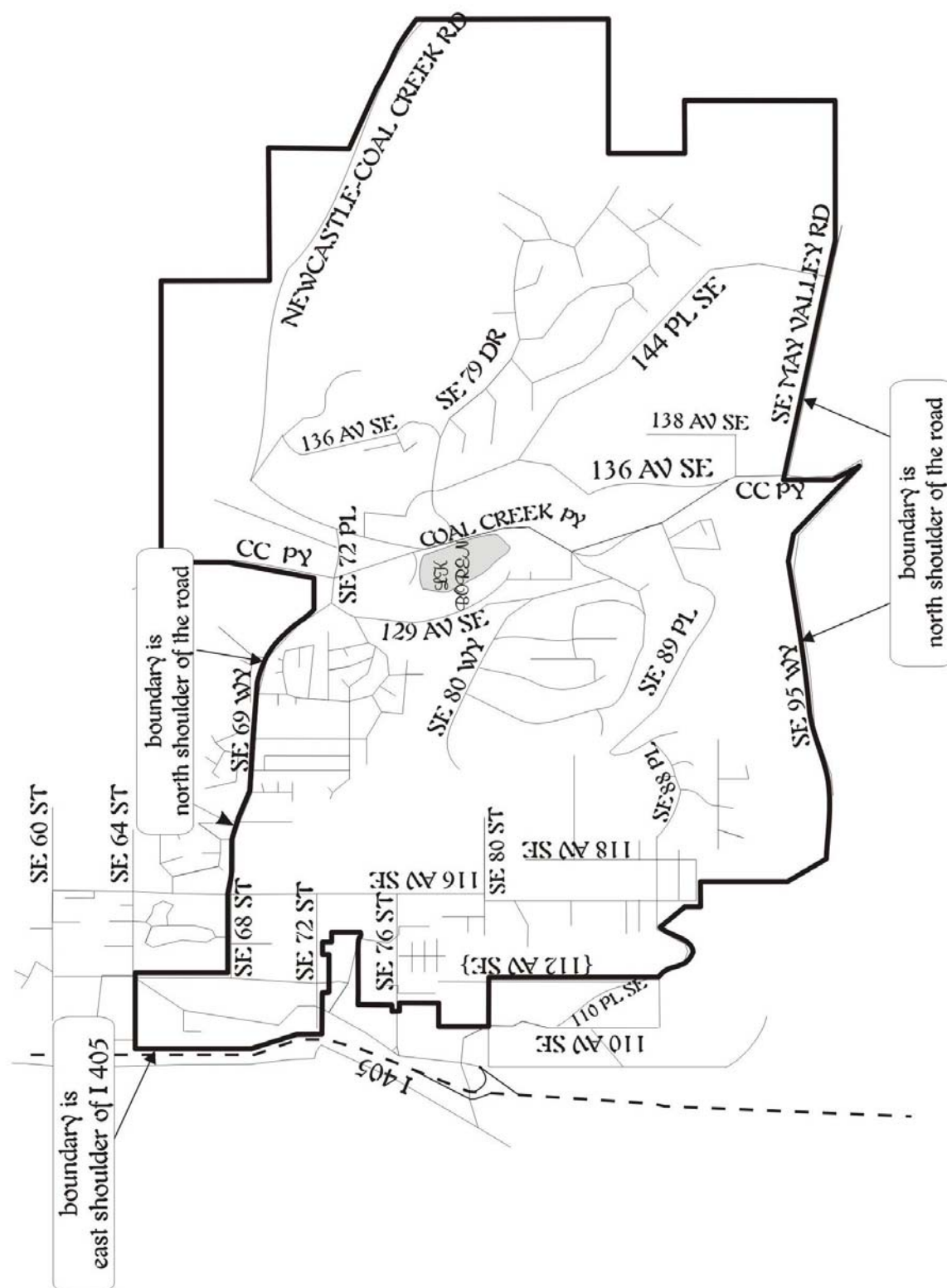Objective: Apprehend offenders
Objective: Prevent crime
Objective: Improve residents' feeling of security

Goal # 2: Provide high-quality, cost-effective, and accountable services to the City of Newcastle
Objective: Provide responsive services to residents.
Objective: Provide cost-effective services to residents.

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City of Newcastle Patrol Area

City of Newcastle
Police Service Highlights
2008

Newcastle's Crime Rate

The Crime Rate is a calculation of the number of Part I Crimes divided by population in thousands. Part I Crimes is a category of crimes established by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). It includes criminal homicide (which includes murder and non-negligent manslaughter, but excludes deaths by negligence, attempts to kill, suicides, accidental deaths, justifiable homicide, and traffic fatalities), forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Part I Crimes Per 1,000 Residents

Year	Value
2004	35
2005	34
2006	34
2007	24
2008	22

Source: Police Services Data

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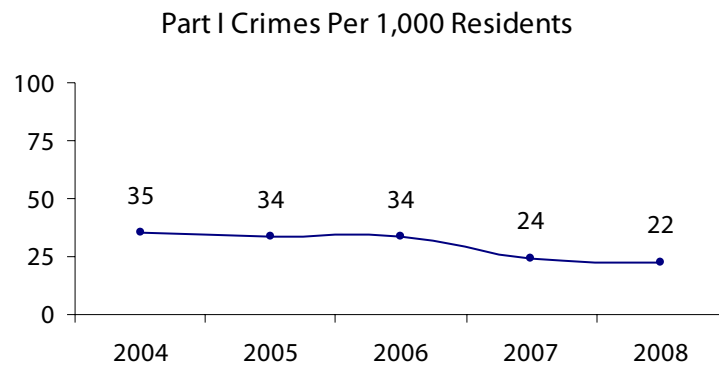
Part I Violent Crimes against People

Part I Crimes include crimes categorized as "violent crimes" or "crimes against people." The following are Newcastle's Part I Violent Crimes.

Murder

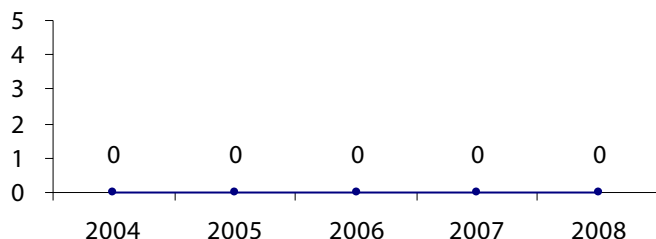Chart values: 2004: 0, 2005: 0, 2006: 0, 2007: 0, 2008: 0

Source for all below: Police Services Data

Murder
The following situations are not included in this crime classification: deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; and attempts to murder or assaults to murder, which are counted as aggravated assaults.

Rape

Chart values: 2004: 2, 2005: 1, 2006: 2, 2007: 4, 2008: 1
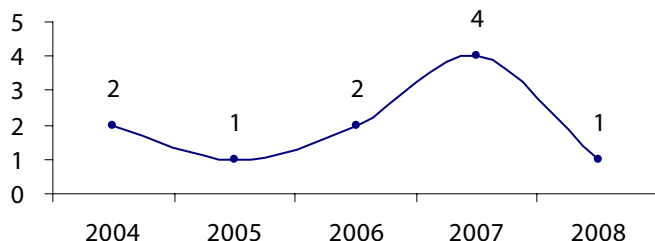
Rape
Rapes by force and attempts or assaults to rape, regardless of the age of the victim, are included in this count. Statutory offenses (no force used—victim under age of consent) are excluded.

Aggravated Assault

Chart values: 2004: 6, 2005: 2, 2006: 3, 2007: 5, 2008: 3
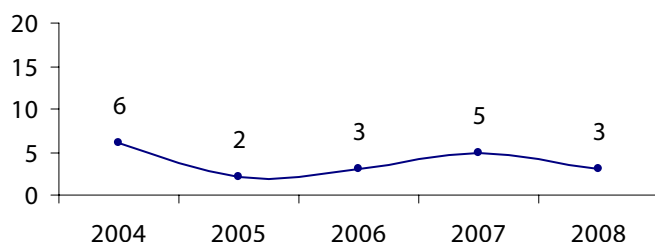
Aggravated Assault
Aggravated assault is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

Robbery

Chart values: 2004: 7, 2005: 3, 2006: 1, 2007: 2, 2008: 2
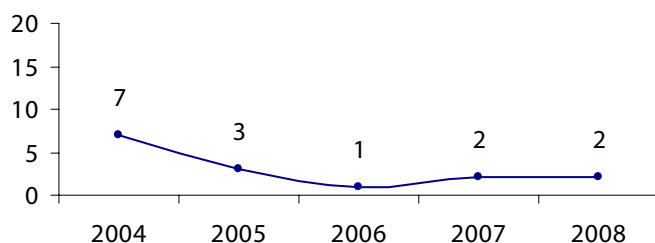
Robbery
Robbery is the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person by force, threat of force, violence, or by putting the victim in fear.

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Part I Non-Violent Crimes against Property

The second group of Part I Crimes is known as "non-violent crimes," "crimes against property," or "property crimes." The following are Newcastle's Part I Crimes against Property. Information about vehicle theft, also included in this category, can be found with traffic and automobile incident information.

Arson
Arson is any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, or personal property of another.

Arson

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Value	1	3	2	2	8

Source for all below: Police Services Data

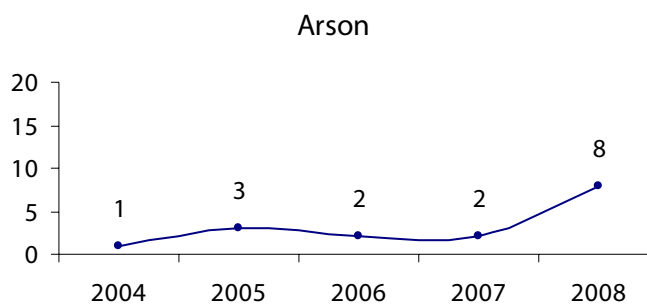### Burglary (breaking or entering)
Burglary is the unlawful entry of a commercial or residential structure with the intent to commit a crime. Attempted forcible entry is included.

Burglary

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Value	33	69	56	46	50
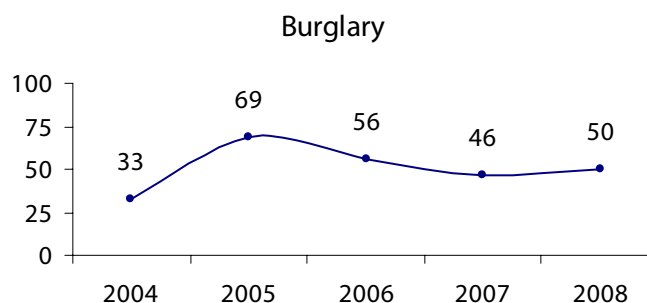
Larceny (except vehicles)
Larceny is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property of any value amount from the possession or constructive possession of another. Examples are thefts of bicycles, motor vehicle parts and accessories, shoplifting, pocket-picking, or the stealing of any property or article that is not taken by force and violence or by fraud. Attempted larcenies are included. Embezzlement, forgery, check fraud, and like crimes are excluded.

Larceny

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Value	168	176	190	144	126

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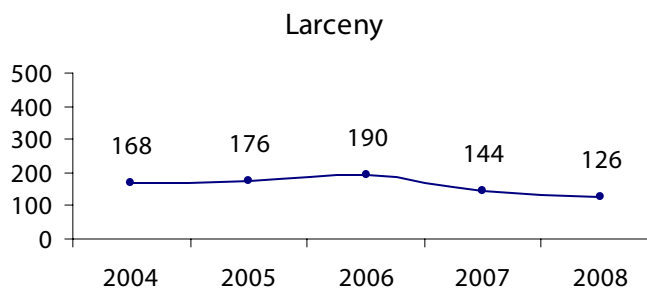
Traffic and Automobile Incident Information

Vehicle theft

Vehicle theft is included in Part I Crimes against Property. It is the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle, which is defined as being self-propelled and running on a land surface and not on rails. Motorboats, construction equipment, airplanes, and farming equipment are specifically excluded from this category.

Vehicle Theft

Year	Value
2004	79
2005	44
2006	56
2007	28
2008	26
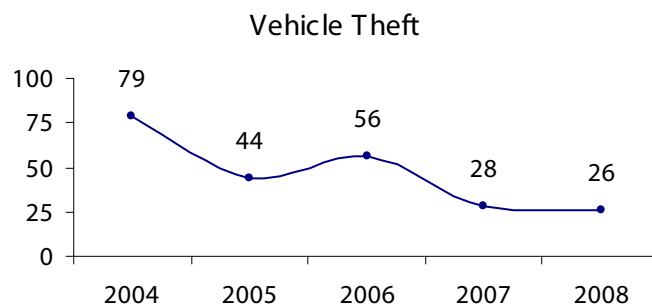
Source: Police Services Data

Thefts and Attempted Thefts ("Prowls") from Automobiles

A theft or attempted theft ("prowl") from an automobile is the act or attempted act of taking something from the inside of an automobile.

Thefts from Vehicles and Attempted Thefts ("Prowls")

Year	Thefts From Automobiles	Attempted Thefts from Vehicles ("Prowls")
2004	87	16
2005	76	22
2006	115	13
2007	70	16
2008	62	15
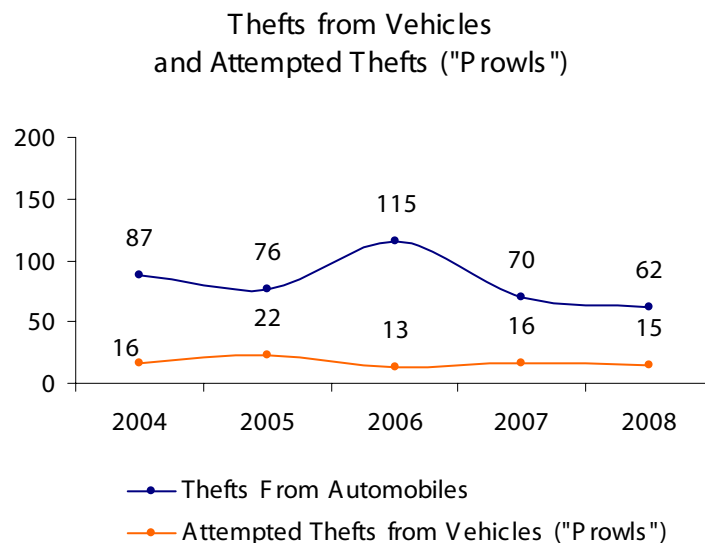
Source: Police Services Data and CAD System

Traffic Collisions

Collision information includes reports for injury, non-injury, and fatality vehicle collisions. Driving under the influence (DUI) collisions are excluded from this category.

Collisions

Year	Value
2004	57
2005	54
2006	76
2007	52
2008	39

Source: CAD System

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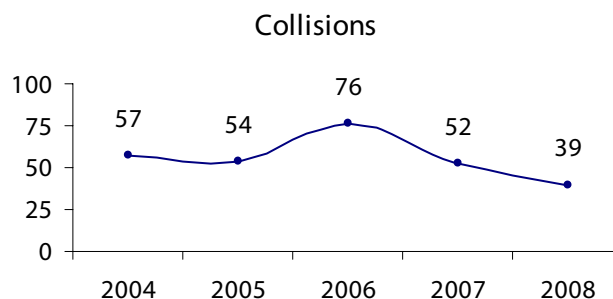
Part I & II Cases Closed by Arrest

The cases below represent incidents where an officer or detective has recommended that the King County Prosecutor's Office file criminal charges against the case suspect. These criminal charges may result in an arrest or another form of punitive action, such as a citation. A prosecuting attorney is solely responsible for the decision to formally file charges and prosecute defendants.

Part I & II Case Closed by Arrest
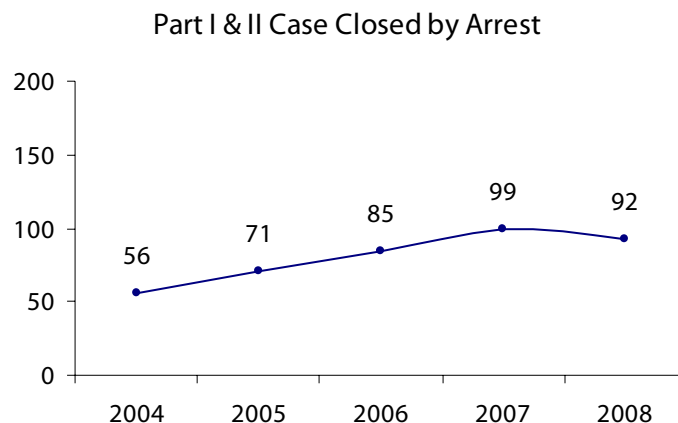
Source: KCSO RPIS Unit

Adult and Juvenile Charges and Arrests

One or more charges can result from a single arrest. Charges also can be filed when probable cause exists against a person who may not have been arrested. The following are the total number of felony and misdemeanor charges and arrests by adult and juvenile status.

Adult, Juvenile Charges & Arrests
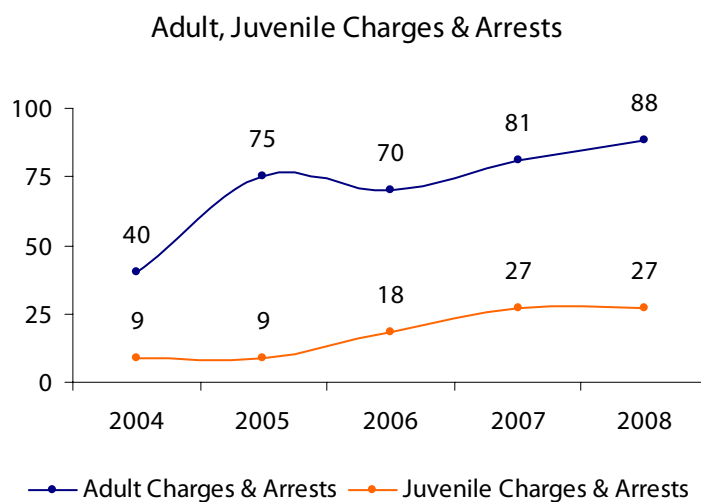
Source: Police Services Data

Calls for Police Assistance

The public receives police assistance in a variety of ways. Residents can call the Emergency 911 Communications Center to have one or more officers dispatched to the field, called a "dispatched call for service."

In addition to dispatched calls for service, 911 center operators can take certain types of reports over the phone through alternative call handling (ACH). This allows police officers more time to respond to those who need an officer present at the location of their incident.

Following are the numbers of dispatched calls for service (DCFS) and alternative call handling (ACH) incidents reported.
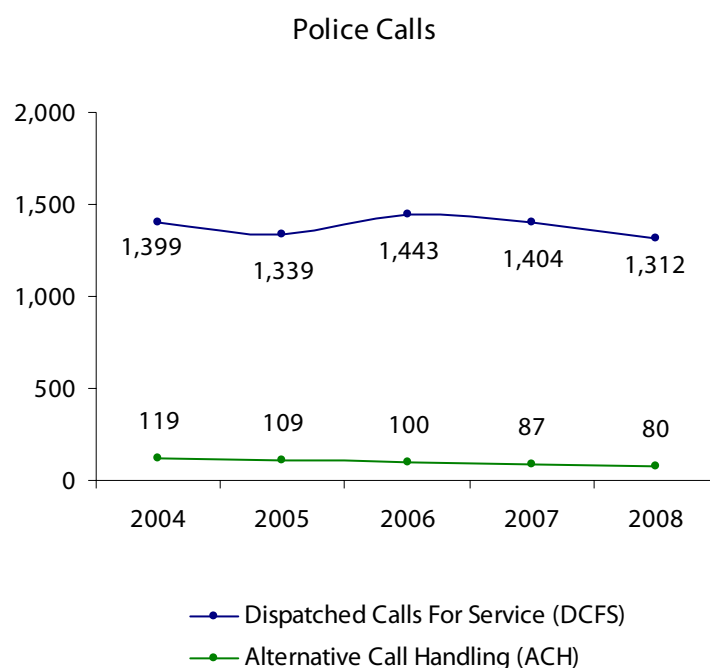
Police Calls

Source: Police Services Data and CAD

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Dispatched Calls For Service (DCFS): The number of DCFS shown here includes calls that are verified to take place inside the city limits and that are charged to the city as part of its police contract. Total DCFS counts, as shown in the Police Service Data section, may be slightly higher (usually less than 5 percent higher).

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Response Times to High Priority Calls

When calls for police assistance are received by the Emergency 911 Communications Center, they are entered into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system and given a "priority" based on the criteria described below. If the call receiver is in doubt as to the appropriate priority, the call is assigned the higher of the two priority designators in question.

"Priority X" designates critical dispatches. These are incidents that pose an obvious danger to the life of an officer or citizen. It is used for felony crimes in-progress where the possibility of confrontation between a victim and suspect exists. Examples include shootings, stabbings, robberies or burglaries.
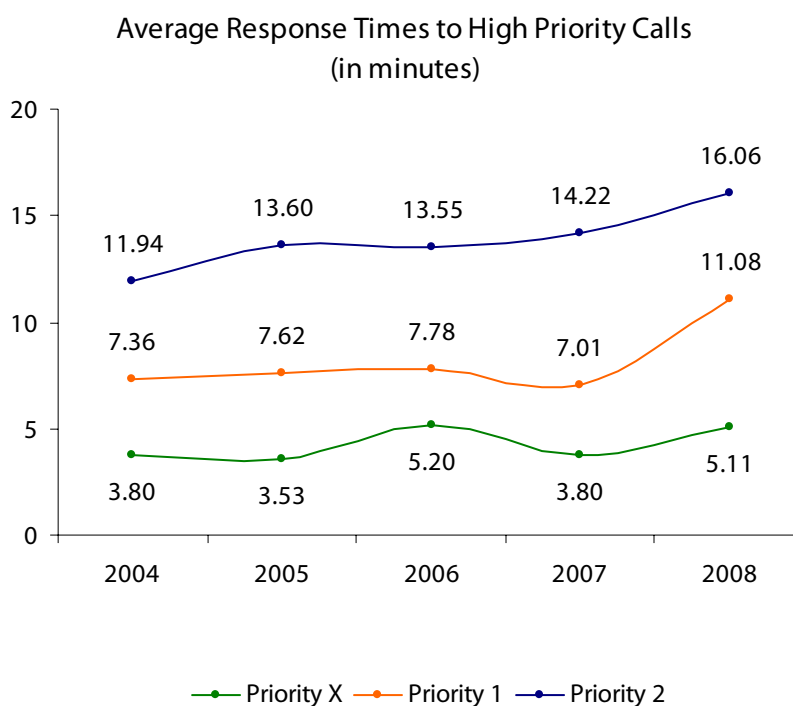
"Priority 1" designates immediate dispatches. These are calls that require immediate police action. Examples include silent alarms, injury traffic accidents, in-progress crimes or crimes so recent that the suspect may still be in the immediate area.

"Priority 2" designates prompt dispatches. These are calls that could escalate to a more serious degree if not policed quickly. Examples include verbal disturbances and blocking traffic accidents.

Following are the City of Newcastle's Police response times for the above priority calls. Response times include all time from the receipt of a phone call to the moment an officer arrives at the location of the incident.

Average Response Times to High Priority Calls (in minutes)

Year	Priority X	Priority 1	Priority 2
2004	3.80	7.36	11.94
2005	3.53	7.62	13.60
2006	5.20	7.78	13.55
2007	3.80	7.01	14.22
2008	5.11	11.08	16.06

Source: Police Services Data

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Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD): A computerized communication system used by emergency response agencies for dispatching and tracking calls for emergency assistance.

Commissioned Officers per 1,000 Residents

Commissioned officers per 1,000 residents shows how many commissioned police officers are employed by Newcastle for every 1,000 residents. This number includes commissioned officers who work in supervisory or other non-patrol related positions as well as special services officers who work part-time for the city. It does not include professional (i.e. non-commissioned) support staff.

Commissioned Officers per 1,000 Residents

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
	0.93	0.88	0.86	0.83	0.89
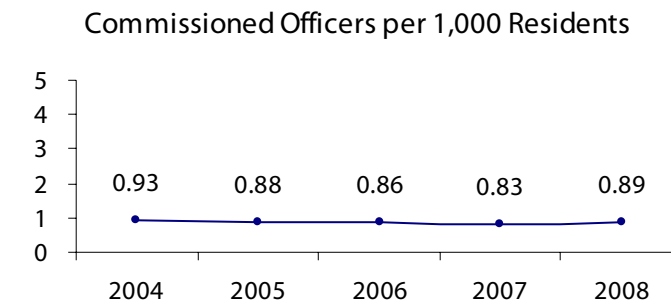
Source: KCSO Contracts Unit

Dispatched Calls for Service (DCFS) per Patrol Officer

Dispatched calls for service (DCFS) per patrol officer is the average number of dispatched calls one patrol officer responds to within a year. This number uses only dispatched calls Newcastle pays for and does not include the number of responses an officer initiates (such as witnessing` and responding to traffic violations, called "on views"). Also, the numbers below are *patrol only* and exclude non-patrol commissioned officers (such as supervisors or special duty officers/detectives).

Dispatched Calls for Service per Patrol Officer

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
	233	223	235	227	212
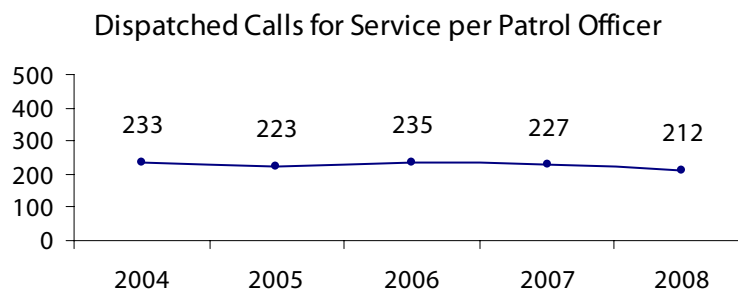
Source: KCSO Contracts Unit

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Costs of Police Services per Capita

The City of Newcastle contracts with the King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) for police services. Among other benefits, contracting for services from a larger law enforcement agency allows for cost savings through "economies of scale." Specific economies of scale provided through the contract with KCSO include:

➢ Mutual aid agreements with other law enforcement agencies in Washington State
➢ A large pool of officers if back-up help is necessary
➢ Coverage if city officers are away
➢ Expertise of specialized units to assist officers
➢ More experienced officers to select from for city staffing
➢ Cost sharing throughout the department to keep city costs down

Costs for police services vary depending on a city's resources and the level and type of police services the community wants. The City of Newcastle may have additional funds or expenditures for special projects or programs as part of the city's law enforcement budget. These additional costs are not reflected in the contract cost per capita, which shows the contract cost for police services divided by Newcastle's population.

Contract Cost per Capita

$129.00 — $125.62 — $127.36 — $130.43 — $132.56 (2004–2008)
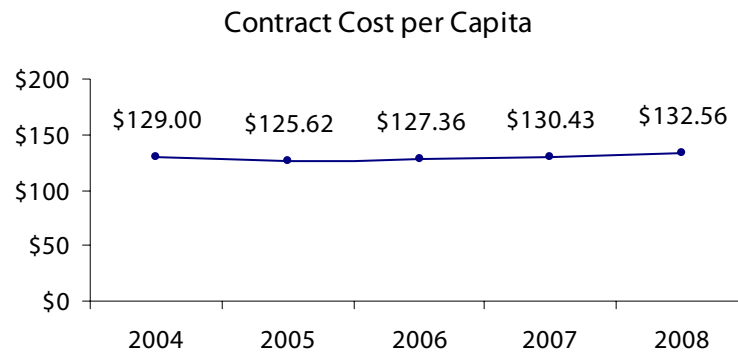
Source: KCSO Contracts Unit

Cost per $1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value

Cost per $1,000 of assessed real property value shows Newcastle's contract cost in relationship to the property values of Newcastle.

Cost per $1,000 of Assessed Real Property Value

$0.85 — $0.81 — $0.77 — $0.71 — $0.64 (2004–2008)
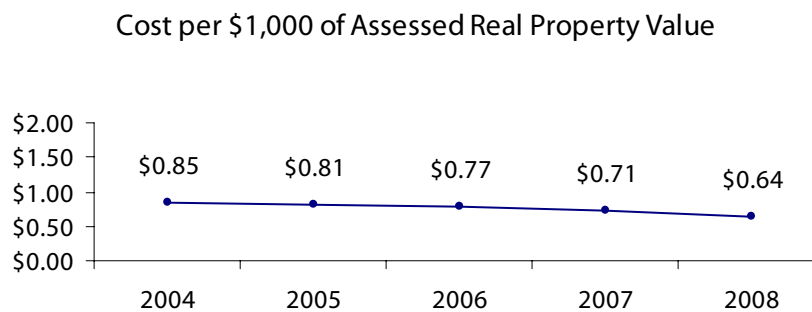
Source: King County Assessor's Office

Complaints against Officers

Complaints against city police officers can originate from the public or internal police department personnel. When a complaint is made, the King County Sheriff's Office Internal Investigations Unit (IIU), which reports directly to the Sheriff, will review the complaint and determine whether a formal complaint investigation should be made. The following are the total number of internal and external complaints that were formally investigated for City of Newcastle officers:

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Number of Complaints	1	0	0	0	0
Number of Dispatched Calls for Service	1,399	1,339	1,443	1,404	1,312

Complaints per 1,000 Dispatched Calls for Service
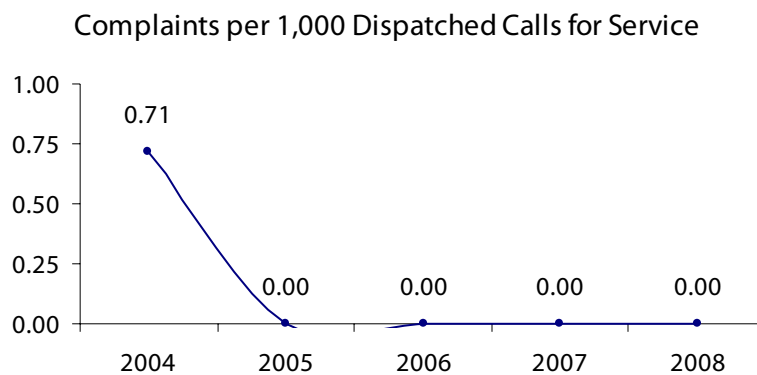
Source: KCSO Internal Investigations Unit

City Cost Comparison

The city cost comparison study is conducted annually by the King County Sheriff's Office Contracts Unit. The study accounts for city budget differences and may factor in (or factor out) certain line items in an effort to allow for "apples-to-apples" comparison between cities.

Newcastle's cost per capita shown here is different than the contract cost per capita, which only includes Newcastle's law enforcement contract paid to the county. The following budget information is obtained directly from the city's budget, which may include funding for extra police services.

City	2007 Crime Rate	2008 Police Budget	2008 Population	2008 Budgeted Sworn	Cost/ Capita	Cost/ Sworn	Sworn/ 1000
Auburn	69.40	$15,923,245	67,005	114.00	$238	$139,678	1.70
Bellevue	36.70	$37,801,001	119,200	182.00	$317	$207,698	1.53
Black Diamond	13.80	$1,566,071	4,155	12.00	$377	$130,506	2.89
Bothell	24.60	$10,603,869	32,860	58.00	$323	$182,825	1.77
Burien	60.70	$6,987,800	31,540	42.67	$222	$163,764	1.35
Covington	31.10	$2,603,802	17,360	16.18	$150	$160,927	0.93
Des Moines	34.60	$9,372,497	29,180	47.00	$321	$199,415	1.61
Duvall	5.80	$1,792,879	5,925	11.50	$303	$155,903	1.94
Federal Way	58.90	$20,039,662	88,040	136.00	$228	$147,350	1.54
Issaquah	35.30	$5,558,325	26,320	33.00	$211	$168,434	1.25
Kenmore	24.10	$2,782,510	20,220	16.78	$138	$165,823	0.83
Kent	62.60	$27,400,220	86,980	130.00	$315	$210,771	1.49
Kirkland	40.90	$13,276,154	48,410	69.00	$274	$192,408	1.43
Lynnwood	85.00	$11,369,500	35,680	79.00	$319	$143,918	2.21
Maple Valley	19.00	$2,192,818	20,480	12.94	$107	$169,460	0.63
Medina	22.70	$1,827,941	2,955	12.94	$619	$141,263	4.38
Mercer Island	18.10	$4,681,174	22,650	35.50	$207	$131,864	1.57
Mukilteo	30.10	$3,878,951	20,050	29.00	$193	$133,757	1.45
Newcastle	23.80	$1,321,953	9,720	8.64	$136	$153,004	0.89
Normandy Park	21.30	$1,637,270	6,425	12.00	$255	$136,439	1.87
North Bend	33.40	$1,309,310	4,710	7.75	$278	$168,943	1.65
Puyallup	86.70	$12,905,584	36,930	58.00	$349	$222,510	1.57
Redmond	34.90	$12,726,052	51,320	42.50	$248	$299,437	0.83
Renton	71.60	$18,617,149	78,780	123.00	$236	$151,359	1.56
Sammamish	14.00	$3,916,490	40,550	25.76	$97	$152,038	0.64
SeaTac	74.80	$7,795,040	25,720	46.08	$303	$169,163	1.79
Seattle	64.50	$235,716,886	592,800	1,308.00	$398	$180,212	2.21
Shoreline	34.30	$9,037,739	53,440	54.53	$169	$165,739	1.02
Tukwila	170.70	$11,752,739	18,080	68.00	$650	$172,834	3.76
Woodinville	48.20	$2,110,721	10,560	13.27	$200	$159,060	1.26
All Contract City Averages *(weighted)*					**$171**	**$163,770**	**1.04**
Non-Contract City Averages *(weighted)*					**$334**	**$179,050**	**1.86**

Data sources:
1. City budgets are found on city websites or via city finance personnel.
2. Population is from Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) estimates.
3. Total sworn numbers are from city budgets.
4. Crime rates are from the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC). Crime rates for 2008 were not yet released at this report's publish date.

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Police Service Data
2008

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CRIME SUMMARY

	2007	2008	Percent Change	Crime Rate	Total 2008 Cases Closed
Part I Offenses					
Criminal Homicide	0	0	N/A	0.00	0
Forcible Rape (incl. Attempts)	4	1	-75.0%	0.10	0
Robbery	2	2	0.0%	0.21	0
Aggravated Assault	5	3	-40.0%	0.31	1
Burglary, Commercial	14	13	-7.1%	1.34	0
Burglary, Residential	32	37	15.6%	3.81	2
Larceny, over $250	91	75	-17.6%	7.72	4
Larceny, under $250	53	51	-3.8%	5.25	2
Vehicle Theft	28	26	-7.1%	2.67	5
Arson	2	8	300.0%	0.82	1
Total Part I Offenses	**231**	**216**	-6.5%	**22.22**	**15**
Total Part II Offenses	**305**	**257**	-15.7%	**26.44**	**9**

NOTE:

The crime rate is calculated on the basis of 1,000 people (i.e., number of crimes per 1,000 people). The population is 9,720.

ACTIVITY SUMMARY

	2007	2008	Percent Change
Dispatched calls for service	1,456	1,338	-8.1%
Adult charges/arrests	81	88	8.6%
Juvenile charges/arrests	27	27	0.0%
Officers assaulted	0	0	N/A
Total gang-related incidents	0	1	N/A
Total domestic violence related incidents	40	42	5.0%
Hate crimes/malicious harassment reports	1	0	-100.0%

NOTE:

The number of DCFS shown here includes all calls recorded by the Emergency 911 Communications Center as being city calls. However, this number may be slightly higher than the number of DCFS shown in the Police Service Highlights section, which reports only those calls that are verified to take place inside the city limits and are charged to the city as part of its police contract. Actual DCFS counts shown here are usually less than 5 percent higher.

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Part One Offenses	
Criminal Homicide	0
Rape	1
Child Rape	0
Attempted Rape	0
Robbery, Highway	0
Robbery, Commercial	0
Robbery, Gas Station	0
Robbery, Chain Store	2
Robbery, Residence	0
Robbery, Bank	0
Robbery, Misc.	0
Robbery, Carjack	0
Assault, Firearm	0
Assault, Knife	1
Assault, ODW	0
Assault, Hands	2
Commercial Burglary, FE	11
Commercial Burglary, NF	2
Commercial Burglary, ATT	0
Residential Burglary, FE	16
Residential Burglary, NF	17
Residential Burglary, ATT	4
Larceny, +$250	75
Larceny, -$250	51
Auto Theft	24
Truck-Bus Theft	0
Other Vehicle Theft	2
Theft Boat/RV	0
Arson Confirmed	8
Total	216

Part Two Offenses	
Assault Fourth	20
Total Forgery/Fraud	41
Stolen Property	0
Vandalism	44
Weapons Violations	1
Commercial Vice	0
Total Sexual Offenses	5
Gambling	0
Total Family/Juvenile	52
DWI	12
Liquor Violations	0
Disorderly Conduct	0
Kidnapping	1
Trespass	12
Opium, coke, etc.	0
Marijuana	0
Synthetic Narcotics	1
Other Narcotics	0
Hate Crimes	0
Viol. of Court Orders (Misd)	12
Viol. of Court Orders (Felony)	0
All other	56
Total	257

NOTE:

The number of DCFS (Dispatched Calls for Service) shown here includes all calls recorded by the Emergency 911 Communications Center as being city calls. However, this number may be slightly higher than the number of DCFS shown in the Police Service Highlights section, which reports only those calls that are verified to take place inside the city limits and are charged to the city as part of its police contract. Actual DCFS counts shown here are usually less than 5 percent higher.

Larceny Offenses	
Auto Parts & Accessories	12
Bicycles	1
Coin Operated Machine Device	0
Gas	0
Non-specific Category	16
Pickpocket	0
Purse Snatch	0
Shoplifting	14
Taken from Auto	62
Taken from Building	21
Total	126

Dispatched Calls for Service	
2008	1,338

Response Times	
Priority	Avg Time in Mins.
X	5.11
1	11.08
2	16.06
3	30.36

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ADULT AND JUVENILE CHARGES, ARRESTS, AND CITATIONS

	Adult Felony	Adult Misdemeanor	Juvenile Felony	Juvenile Misdemeanor	Total Adults and Juveniles
Criminal Homicide	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Rape	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2	0	0	0	2
Burglary	0	0	5	0	5
Larceny	0	4	0	3	7
Vehicle Theft	4	0	0	0	4
Assault, Fourth	0	14	0	4	18
Arson	2	0	0	0	2
Counterfeiting/Forgery	1	0	0	0	1
Fraud	1	0	0	0	1
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0	0
Stolen Property	3	0	4	0	7
Vandalism	0	2	3	1	6
Weapons Violations	1	0	0	0	1
Prostitution - Vice	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offense (No Rape)	1	0	0	0	1
Narcotics/Drug Violation	3	0	0	0	3
Marijuana	0	0	0	0	0
Gambling, Other	0	0	0	0	0
DWI	0	9	0	0	9
Liquor Violation	0	1	0	5	6
Disorderly Conduct	0	0	0	0	0
Other (except Traffic)	2	18	1	1	22
Traffic	1	19	0	0	20
TOTAL	**21**	**67**	**13**	**14**	**115**

NOTE:

Charges include all adults and juveniles booked, cited and charged in absentia. Charges do not include persons that are booked on warrants each quarter.

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Adult Arrests
An arrest is counted every time an adult is cited for a criminal offense or booked. More specifically:
1. It includes all adult bookings, plus
2. All adult citations which are classified as criminal non-traffic.
3. When an adult is both cited and booked, it is only counted once.

Cases Cleared /Clearance
The solving of an offense by arrest, or in some circumstances, by exceptional means (the suspect died, is imprisoned on another charge, victim refuses to testify, etc.).

CASE CLOSURE DEFINITIONS

Cleared by Arrest:
A case can be closed by arrest when at least one suspect is positively identified and charges are recommended to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. This closure does not require physical booking into a jail or juvenile detention facility. It also does not require the charging of all suspects, if there are multiple suspects in the crime. This category includes criminal citations into district and municipal courts for misdemeanors and felony filings into Superior Court, as well as all filings into Juvenile Court.

Exceptional Clearance:
A case can be closed "exceptional" if it can be established that a crime has been committed and the identity of a suspect is positively confirmed, but due to circumstances beyond our control, no charges are filed. An example of this type of closure is a case in which the victim declines to assist in prosecution. Another example is when another police agency files charges on a related crime stemming from the same incident. (Car stolen in King County, but suspect arrested out of the stolen car in Bellevue. Bellevue P.D. charges the suspect with possession of the stolen car. We close the stolen car case "exceptional.")

Unfounded:
Cases are closed as "unfounded" when the investigation reveals that no crime has been committed. An example would be the report of a theft by one party that is determined to be a false report by interviewing other independent witnesses.

Administrative Clearance:
This clearance is used primarily to close non-criminal police investigations like found property. For instance, if a citizen finds and turns over to police a wallet. Investigations reveal who the owner of the wallet is and the item is returned to that person.

Inactive:
This category is used when all investigative leads are exhausted and the case can not be closed by any of the above classifications.

Dispatched Calls for Service
This includes calls received in the Communications Center which result in one or more patrol cars being dispatched.

Domestic Violence
Domestic Violence is a subcategory to other crimes. Virtually any crime can by classified as domestic violence. In the State of Washington, Domestic Violence is defined as a crime of violence against the person or property of a spouse, former spouse, persons related by blood or marriage, persons who have a child in common, former/current roommates, persons who have or had a dating relationship, and persons related to the suspect by the parent-child (biological or legal) relationship. In some cases, the age of the victim or suspect may determine whether or not the legal definition above is met.

Part I Offenses
This category is commonly known as the "Crime Index." Crimes include criminal homicide (which includes murder and non-negligent manslaughter; but excludes deaths by negligence, attempts to kill, suicides, accidental deaths, justifiable homicide and traffic fatalities), forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault (which excludes simple assaults), burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft and arson.

Violent Crimes (Part 1)
These are a sub-classification of Part I Offenses which encompass murder and non-negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery and aggravated assault.

Part II Offenses
This category includes all other crime classifications outside those defined as Part I. Crimes include other assaults (simple), forgery and counterfeiting, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property (buying, receiving and/or possessing), vandalism, weapons (carrying, possessing, etc.), prostitution and commercialized vice, sex offenses (except forcible rape, prostitution or commercial vice...i.e. statutory rape, indecent exposure, etc.), drug violations, gambling, offenses against the family and children, driving under the influence, liquor violations, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, etc.

Response Times/Priorities
Priority X - Critical Dispatch. This category is used for those calls that pose an obvious threat to the safety of persons. Examples include shootings, stabbings and in-progress crimes such as robberies or burglaries where the possibility of a confrontation between a victim and suspect exists.

Priority 1 - Immediate Dispatch. This category is used for those calls that require immediate police action. Examples include silent alarms, injury traffic accidents, in-progress crimes or crimes that have just occurred where a suspect may still be in the immediate area.

Priority 2 - Prompt Dispatch. This category is used for those calls that could escalate to a more serious degree if not policed quickly. Examples include verbal disturbances and blocking traffic accidents.

Priority 3 - Routine Dispatch. This category is used for those calls where response time is not a critical factor. Examples include burglaries and larcenies that are not in progress, audible alarms, or other routine reports.

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